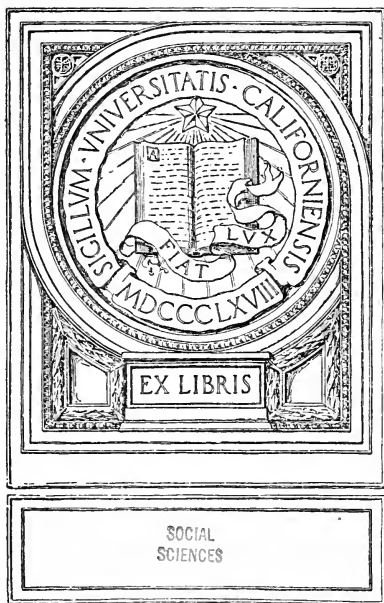


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BUREAU OF BUSINESS RESEARCH**

International Comparisons of Prices of Cotton Cloth

January 1919 - March 1920



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INTERNATIONAL COMPARISONS OF PRICES OF COTTON CLOTH

January 1919–March 1920

THE purpose of this bulletin is to show the relative course of prices of standard cotton cloth in some of the markets of the United States, England, India, and China during 1919 and the early months of 1920. The plan by which these comparisons are worked out was developed in 1919 by the Research Committee¹ of the National Council of Cotton Manufacturers and turned over to the Bureau of Business Research in October, 1919, by the National Council of Cotton Manufacturers. It is to be continued and developed by the Bureau of Business Research.

The method of comparison, which is explained in detail on pages 20–24, is not yet perfected; it is expected that, later, means will be found for using quotations for additional fabrics and it is also planned to make similar comparisons with the prices in several other foreign markets as soon as the data are available. The results already secured are presented in this bulletin.

The tables on pages 9–13 show the course of prices, the per cent that the foreign prices were above or below New York prices, and also the course of rates of exchange on these markets. The main facts indicated by these tables are summarized briefly in the following statement.

¹ The members of this Committee were Mr. A. F. Bemis, Boston, Mass., Chairman, Mr. Jno. A. Law, Spartanburg, South Carolina, and Mr. John S. Lawrence, Boston, Mass. The Secretary of the Committee was Mr. Melvin T. Copeland, the Director of the Bureau of Business Research. The details of the plan were worked out by Mr. Harry F. Bruning as special agent of the Research Committee.

The prices of standard grey cloth in the United States and in England fell steadily during the first ten weeks in 1919. During this period the English prices, computed at the current rates of exchange, were from 15 to 22 per cent above American prices for similar fabrics. During the first week in March, American prices reached their lowest point. At that time ordinary cotton cloth was probably cheaper in the wholesale markets of the United States than elsewhere in the world.

About the middle of March, cloth prices began to rise in the United States and the rates of exchange on England commenced to fall. In the course of a few weeks, as a result of these two influences, the prices of grey cloth in New York and in Manchester came to be about equal at the current rates of exchange. During the next month and a half, prices advanced more rapidly in the United States than in England. Consequently, by May 15th, Manchester prices, at current exchange, were 11 per cent below New York prices. On June 3d, Manchester prices were 17 per cent below.

During the last half of the year 1919, English prices, computed at par, increased more rapidly than the United States prices. The rates of exchange, on the other hand, constantly fell. Consequently, on a gold basis — that is, at current rates of exchange — the English prices remained from 11 to 22 per cent below the American prices. The greatest differences were in the last month of the year. Yet in that month the differences in prices between England and the United States were less than the depreciation of exchange. On December 23d, the average price of standard grey cloth in New York was 103.47 cents per pound; in Manchester at par 107.27 cents, at current exchange 83.14 cents. Thus the English prices at current exchange were 20 per cent below United States prices, but English exchange on the same day was 22 per cent below par. During the first three months in 1920, however, the rise in the prices of these fabrics in England was more rapid than the rise in the American prices.

From the standpoint of international price comparisons, the fluctuations in foreign exchange rates during 1919 and the first three months in 1920 were fully as significant as the changes in the price quotations.

In comparing prices between New York and Calcutta and New York and Shanghai, it is not possible to give comparisons at par. In India, the unit of currency is a rupee which is a silver coin containing 165 grains of fine silver. In 1893 the free coinage of silver was discontinued in India and the currency was placed upon a gold exchange basis, according to which one rupee was convertible, for purposes of external obligations, into sterling exchange at the fixed rate of one shilling four pence. Sterling exchange was then equivalent to gold.

The unsettlement of world exchanges during the war and the rise in the value of silver that has accompanied the world-wide rise in prices of other commodities made it necessary that the value of the silver rupee in terms of sterling exchange should be readjusted. Sterling exchange depreciated; it was no longer freely convertible into gold. On August 28, 1917, the rupee was made equal to one shilling five pence in sterling exchange; April 12, 1918, one shilling six pence; May 13, 1919, one shilling eight pence; August 12, 1919, one shilling ten pence; September 15, 1919, two shillings; November 22, 1919, two shillings two pence; and December 12, 1919, two shillings four pence.¹ The object of this was to preserve the rupee as a token coin and thus to avoid the withdrawal of a large amount of silver from circulation, a condition that was likely to result if the silver in the coin were worth more as bullion than as currency. These changes in the value of the rupee in sterling exchange probably had

¹ These were the rates used in the sale of Council Drafts by the government of India. A complete statement of the Indian currency and exchange situation is given in the *Report of the Committee Appointed to Enquire into Indian Exchange and Currency, Delhi, 1920.*

some influence in helping to stabilize the rates of exchange between New York and India. Because of these changes and the use of other means of control by the Indian government, the value of the rupee in terms of American currency fluctuated only from 36.25 cents to 45.25 cents during 1919.

In February, 1920, the currency value of the rupee was fixed at 11.30016 grains of fine gold, equal to the par value of two shillings (48.66 cents), but no longer dependent on sterling exchange. At the same time restrictions on the import and export of gold were removed by the Indian government.

Inasmuch as prior to February, 1920, the Calcutta prices were not properly convertible into American currency at par but only at the current rates of exchange, the prices in rupees per pound of cloth are also given in the tables in order to show the tendencies in the actual price quotations in that market.¹ In the comparison of prices of grey cloth in New York and Calcutta the first outstanding characteristic is the greater stability of the price quotations in the Indian market. This may be due to the remoteness of that market from the large producing districts from which the bulk of its supplies are drawn. The forces affecting supply and demand apparently are not focussed as spontaneously in a market like that of Calcutta as in the Manchester and New York markets.

During the first ten weeks of 1919, prices of cotton cloth fell in New York more rapidly than in Calcutta. On January 9th, Calcutta prices at current rates of exchange were 17 per cent above the New York prices. On March 6th, they were 39 per cent above the New York quotations. During the month of May, a rapid rise took place in the New York market, whereas the Calcutta market remained stationary and exchange rates were stabilized. The result was that on May 29th, Calcutta prices were 6 per cent below New York prices.

¹ The fractional parts of a rupee are annas and pies. 12 pies equal 1 anna, and 16 annas equal 1 rupee.

About the middle of June a new influence was manifested in the jump in Calcutta exchange; the value of the rupee in American currency rose abruptly from 36.25 cents to 41 cents. This change occurred when the war-time control over the movement of the precious metals was removed in the United States. The tendency for the remainder of the year 1919, and for the first two months in 1920 was for the prices in the New York and Calcutta markets to approximate each other at the current rates of exchange except during periods as in August and September, 1919, and January, 1920, when rather sudden changes took place in the New York market. These changes were only gradually reflected in the Calcutta market.

In Shanghai, prices are quoted in taels. The tael is a weight of silver that has no fixed relation to the gold currency of other countries. Consequently, no par value in terms of American currency can be given for Shanghai prices. The effect of the world-wide rise in the price of silver is reflected in the rise of the Shanghai exchange. The rise in silver is one of the reasons for the increase in the rates of Shanghai exchange, as shown on page 13.

The comparisons of New York prices with Shanghai prices are not as complete as the comparisons with prices in Manchester and Calcutta. Up to the present time it has not been possible to obtain quotations for as many fabrics; the average prices of only four fabrics are used in the Shanghai comparisons. These Shanghai prices are for sales at auction. Inasmuch as sales of each of these "chops" did not occur every week, comparisons could be made for only a portion of the period.

The table on page 13 shows that the changes in the prices of cotton cloth quoted in taels in Shanghai were less radical than the changes in the prices of cotton cloth in New York. The lowest figure for Shanghai was 0.7169 taels per pound and the highest 0.8773 taels per pound, a range of 22 per cent. In New York the lowest price was 47.45 cents per pound, and

the highest price 98.83 cents per pound during 1919, an increase of 108 per cent.

There was no marked change in the prices in Shanghai as quoted in taels from March 13th to May 29th, but during this same period the New York prices increased substantially. So far as quotations were obtainable, the increase that took place in Shanghai during the early part of June brought prices to their highest point on June 19th. From that date to the end of the year the prices in Shanghai, quoted in taels, tended constantly to decline and reached the lowest point at the end of the year. This decline was probably due in large measure to the heavy rise in exchange, for prices in New York increased substantially during the last half of the year. While the prices quoted in taels declined, the prices computed at the current rates of exchange increased, but not so rapidly as exchange rose. The result was that, whereas on March 13th Shanghai prices at current exchange were 82 per cent above New York prices, on December 25th, they were only 21 per cent above New York prices.

During January, 1920, the course of prices of cotton cloth in taels in Shanghai was changed and a substantial increase was shown. A decline in the rates of exchange also occurred during the same month. The net result was to bring New York prices and Shanghai prices for cotton cloth nearer together, at current rates of exchange, than they had been during the preceding year.

PRICES OF COTTON GREY CLOTH IN THE UNITED STATES AND ENGLAND

Date	New York (cents per pound)	Manchester, England		Per cent that English prices at current ex- change were above or below New York prices	Per cent that English ex- change was above or below par
		At Par (cents per pound)	At current exchange— demand sterling (cents per pound)		
1919					
Jan. 2	65.91	77.50	75.80	15% above	2% below
9	64.60	76.45	74.60	15 "	2 "
16	59.65	74.33	72.70	22 "	2 "
23	57.26	68.31	66.80	17 "	2 "
30	53.91	64.57	63.20	17 "	2 "
Feb. 6	53.28	64.49	63.10	18 "	2 "
13	50.94	63.15	61.80	21 "	2 "
20	50.07	62.24	60.80	21 "	2 "
27	50.96	61.53	60.20	18 "	2 "
March 6	49.52	60.03	58.71	19 "	2 "
13	50.06	58.93	57.63	15 "	2 "
20	51.19	57.47	55.52	8 "	3 "
27	50.58	55.66	50.98	1 "	8 "
April 3	50.60	54.60	52.25	3 "	4 "
10	52.46	55.92	53.35	2 "	5 "
17	55.19	56.40	53.86	2 below	5 "
24	57.00	57.68	55.20	3 "	4 "
May 1	59.91	57.68	55.32	8 "	4 "
8	60.56	59.17	56.92	6 "	4 "
15	65.48	60.61	57.94	11 "	4 "
20	67.61	62.45	59.39	12 "	5 "
27	75.94	67.47	64.37	15 "	5 "
June 3	79.35	69.31	65.78	17 "	5 "
10	79.86	69.57	65.95	17 "	5 "
17	78.62	71.50	67.78	11 "	6 "
24	81.35	74.21	69.91	14 "	6 "
July 1	84.92	78.02	73.14	14 "	6 "
8	86.87	79.69	73.24	16 "	8 "
15	90.67	83.03	75.67	17 "	9 "
22	92.06	84.20	74.65	19 "	11 "
29	92.18	85.38	75.70	18 "	11 "
Aug. 5	91.40	84.76	75.15	18 "	11 "
12	87.49	83.06	73.04	17 "	12 "
19	82.59	80.67	70.07	15 "	13 "

Date	New York (cents per pound)	Manchester, England		Per cent that English prices at current exchange were above or below New York prices	Per cent that English exchange was above or below par
		At Par (cents per pound)	At current exchange—demand sterling (cents per pound)		
1919					
Aug. 26	83.77	81.12	69.46	17% below	14% below
Sept. 2	83.67	81.27	69.59	17 " "	14 " "
9	78.39	80.29	67.72	14 " "	16 " "
16	78.34	79.93	68.00	13 " "	15 " "
23	80.63	81.28	68.72	15 " "	15 " "
30	85.11	83.04	72.18	15 " "	13 " "
Oct. 7	86.75	84.11	72.07	17 " "	14 " "
14	89.04	85.98	73.23	18 " "	15 " "
21	92.49	87.25	74.00	20 " "	15 " "
28	95.35	91.07	77.43	19 " "	15 " "
Nov. 4	98.76	94.15	79.65	19 " "	15 " "
11	99.79	93.51	78.54	21 " "	16 " "
18	96.67	93.81	76.92	20 " "	18 " "
25	97.79	96.06	78.81	19 " "	18 " "
Dec. 2	99.64	99.93	79.46	20 " "	20 " "
9	102.64	103.74	79.88	22 " "	23 " "
16	101.06	103.68	79.83	21 " "	23 " "
23	103.47	107.27	83.14	20 " "	22 " "
30	104.32	....	....	....	24 " "
1920					
Jan. 6	107.48	....	....	....	23 " "
13	113.31	....	....	....	24 " "
20	114.73	119.91	89.20	22 " "	26 " "
27	113.61	120.39	87.02	23 " "	27 " "
Feb. 3	113.60	120.50	81.33	28 " "	33 " "
10	111.45	....	....	....	32 " "
17	110.92	126.12	85.77	23 " "	32 " "
24	110.23	126.28	87.24	21 " "	31 " "
March 2	107.43	126.12	87.46	19 " "	31 " "
9	107.43	126.28	93.21	13 " "	26 " "
16	111.17	126.28	95.61	14 " "	24 " "
23	112.73	127.17	98.36	13 " "	23 " "
30	113.95	127.17	102.04	10 " "	22 " "

The New York prices in the above comparisons are the average prices of eight fabrics with an average construction of 61 × 61, average linear yards per pound 5.4, average square yards per pound 5.06, and average number of yarn 29.4.

The English prices in the above comparisons are the average prices of eight fabrics with an average construction of 63 × 60, average linear yards per pound 5.0, average square yards per pound 5.08, and average number of yarn 29.3.

PRICES OF COTTON GREY CLOTH IN THE UNITED STATES AND INDIA

Date	New York (cents per pound)	Calcutta		Per cent that Calcutta prices at current ex- change were above or below New York prices	Value of rupee in American currency at current exchange (cents)
		Rupees (per pound)	At current exchange — cables (cents per pound)		
1919		R A P			
Jan. 9	64.01	2- 0- 6	75.14	17% above	37.00
16	58.61	2- 0- 6	75.14	28 "	37.00
23	57.39	2- 0- 0	74.11	29 "	37.00
30	53.42	2- 0- 0	74.11	39 "	37.00
Feb. 6	52.87	1-15- 1	71.91	36 "	37.00
13	50.85	1-14- 8	70.88	39 "	37.00
20	49.82	1-14- 8	69.35	39 "	36.25
27	50.80	1-14- 8	69.35	37 "	36.25
March 6	49.19	1-14- 4	68.33	39 "	36.25
13	50.29	1-14- 4	68.33	36 "	36.25
20	50.68	1-14- 4	68.33	35 "	36.25
27	50.51	1-15- 3	70.74	40 "	36.25
April 3	50.33	1-15- 3	70.74	41 "	36.25
10	52.53	1-15- 3	70.74	35 "	36.25
17	55.43	1-15- 3	70.74	28 "	36.25
24	56.91	2- 0- 1	72.77	28 "	36.25
May 1	59.84	2- 0-10	74.80	25 "	36.25
8	60.23	2- 0-10	74.80	24 "	36.25
15	64.52	2- 0-10	74.80	16 "	36.25
22	71.65	2- 0-10	74.80	4 "	36.25
29	79.24	2- 0-10	74.80	6 below	36.25
June 5	79.70	2- 0-10	74.80	7 "	36.25
12	78.84	2- 0-10	74.80	5 "	36.25
19	79.02	2- 0- 8	86.90	10 above	41.00
26	83.77	2- 0- 8	88.30	5 "	41.50
July 3	86.87	2- 0- 8	89.02	2 "	42.00
10	88.58	2- 2- 6	90.72	2 "	42.00
17	91.45	2- 3- 6	93.18	2 "	42.00
24	91.84	2- 3- 6	93.18	1 "	42.00
31	91.65	2- 3- 6	88.73	3 below	40.00

Date	New York (cents per pound)	Calcutta		Per cent that Calcutta prices at current ex- change were above or below New York prices	Value of rupee in American currency at current exchange (cents)
		Ru pees (per pound)	At current exchange— cables (cents per pound)		
1919		R A P			
Aug. 7	88.79	2- 3- 6	88.73	No difference	40.00
14	85.61	2- 3- 6	88.73	4% above	40.00
21	81.06	2- 3- 6	94.29	16 "	42.50
28	83.09	2- 3- 6	93.18	12 "	42.00
Sept. 4	80.31	2- 3- 0	94.05	17 "	43.00
11	77.49	2- 3- 0	95.03	23 "	43.50
18	78.99	2- 3- 0	94.74	20 "	43.25
25	82.31	2- 2- 2	92.85	13 "	43.50
Oct. 9	86.64	2- 2-11	94.68	9 "	43.50
16	91.02	2- 4- 0	98.64	8 "	44.00
23	91.93	2- 4- 0	97.31	6 "	43.25
30	95.04	2- 5- 0	99.34	5 "	43.00
Nov. 6	98.62	2- 5- 3	98.27	1 below	42.25
13	97.87	2- 5- 3	100.60	3 above	43.25
20	94.35	2- 5- 3	100.60	7 "	43.25
27	98.04	2- 4- 4	100.44	2 "	44.25
Dec. 4	101.12	2- 4- 4	102.27	1 "	45.25
11	102.49	2- 4- 4	102.15	No difference	45.00
18	102.49	2- 4- 5	101.35	1 below	44.50
1920					
Jan. 8	110.16	2- 5- 0	103.95	6 "	45.00
15	115.27	2- 4- 6	101.55	12 "	44.50
22	116.00	2- 4- 6	100.41	13 "	44.00
29	112.77	2- 4- 6	100.41	11 "	44.00
Feb. 5	110.65	2- 4- 6	106.12	4 "	46.50
12	108.02	2- 4- 6	111.83	4 above	49.00
19	107.91	2- 4- 6	110.11	2 "	48.25
26	104.33	2- 4- 6	103.84	5 below	45.50
Mar. 4	103.56	2- 4- 6	103.84	No difference	45.50

The New York prices in the above comparisons are the average prices of six fabrics with an average construction of 61 × 62, average linear yards per pound 4.4, average square yards per pound 4.6, and average number of yarn 27.5.

The Calcutta prices in the above comparisons are the average prices of six fabrics with an average construction of 69 × 64, average linear yards per pound 4.3, average square yards per pound 4.4, and average number of yarn 27.8.

PRICES OF COTTON GREY CLOTH IN U. S. AND CHINA

Date	New York (cents per pound)	Shanghai		Per cent that Shanghai prices at current ex- change were above or below New York prices	Value of Shanghai tael in American currency at current exchange (cents)
		Taels (per pound)	At current exchange — cables (cents per pound)		
1919					
March 13	47.45	.7644	86.40	82% above	113.0
20	48.13	.7607	85.76	78 "	112.0
27	48.13	.7510	86.66	80 "	112.0
April 3	48.13	.7828	86.11	79 "	110.0
17	50.30	.7898	90.03	79 "	114.0
24	53.04	.7845	89.82	69 "	114.5
May 1	57.09	.7792	91.82	61 "	118.0
8	57.76	.7873	93.90	63 "	120.0
15	61.14	.7880	98.11	60 "	124.5
29	71.28	.7867	97.16	36 "	123.5
June 19	75.26	.8773	108.77	45 "	124.0
July 3	78.16	.8049	100.59	29 "	125.0
10	79.62	.8151	100.25	26 "	123.0
17	83.32	.8006	96.86	16 "	121.0
Aug. 7	84.24	.7961	99.50	18 "	125.0
21	76.34	.7674	101.57	33 "	132.5
Oct. 16	81.12	.7537	104.88	29 "	137.0
Nov. 13	91.48	.7326	110.04	20 "	148.0
20	90.30	.7345	120.05	33 "	161.0
Dec. 4	94.43	.7196	123.30	31 "	168.0
11	96.28	.7169	115.67	20 "	159.0
25	98.83	.7170	119.35	21 "	167.0
1920					
Jan. 1	100.21	.7277	118.94	19 "	163.5
8	102.57	.7317	117.09	14 "	160.0
15	107.89	.7468	120.24	11 "	161.0
22	110.43	.7685	121.80	10 "	158.5
29	109.50	.7620	121.92	11 "	160.0
Feb. 5	108.37	.7611	122.16	13 "	160.5
March 4	103.79	.7859	116.32	12 "	148.0
11	103.40	.7922	114.87	11 "	145.0

The New York prices in the above comparisons are the average prices of four fabrics with an average construction of 48 × 49, average linear yards per pound 6.08, average square yards per pound 5.49, and average number of yarn 24.4.

The Shanghai prices in the above comparisons are the average prices of four fabrics with an average construction of 64 × 63, average linear yards per pound 4.16, average square yards per pound 4.41, and average number of yarn 24.8.

CHARTS

The charts on the following pages present graphically the course of prices and the rates of exchange by weeks for the year 1919. Chart I shows the course of prices of cotton grey cloth in the United States and England, using the figures given in the second, third, and fourth columns of the table on pages 9 and 10. Curve A indicates the trend of New York prices; Curve B, the Manchester prices at par; and Curve C, the Manchester prices at current exchange.

Chart II shows the fluctuations in the English prices of cotton grey cloth in comparison with the United States prices and also the fluctuations in English exchange, as given in the last two columns of the table on pages 9 and 10. The price curve on this chart represents the percentage that the English prices were above or below the New York prices. The course of Curve D, in Chart II, is therefore to be considered with reference to the base line (marked 0). For Curve D, plus 15 on the chart thus means that on that date the average English price of these cotton fabrics was 15 per cent above the average New York price on the same date. When Curve D crosses the base line (marked 0), it indicates that on that date the New York prices and the English prices at current exchange were equal. Curve E, on Chart II, shows the relation of English exchange to par. For this curve the base line (marked 0) represents par exchange and the distance that Curve E is below the base line indicates the percentage of depreciation of English exchange on the United States.

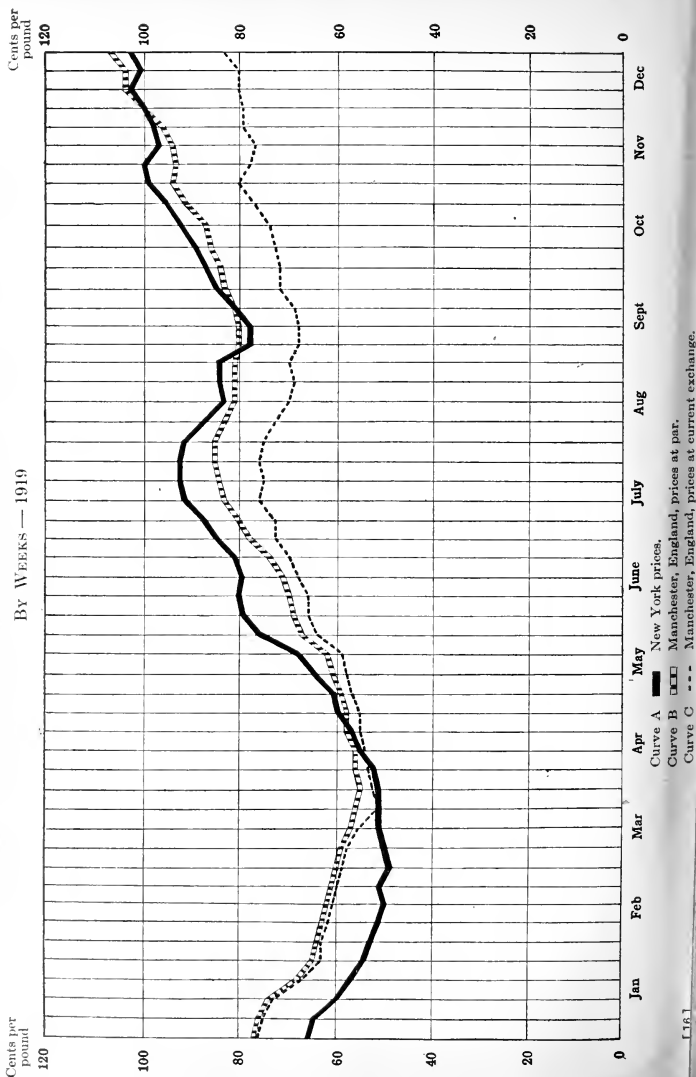
Chart III shows the course of prices of cotton grey cloth in the United States and India, using the figures given in the second and fourth columns of the table on pages 11 and 12. Curve F indicates the trend of the New York prices, and Curve G, the Calcutta prices at current exchange.

Chart IV shows the fluctuations in the Indian prices of cotton grey cloth in comparison with the United States prices,

using the figures given in the fifth column of the table on pages 11 and 12. The price curve on this chart represents the percentage that the Calcutta prices were above or below the New York prices. The course of Curve H is therefore to be considered with reference to the base line (marked 0). For Curve H, plus 17 on the chart thus means that on that date the average Indian price of these cotton fabrics was 17 per cent above the average New York price on the same date. When Curve H crosses the base line (marked 0), it indicates that on that date the New York prices and the Calcutta prices at current exchange were equal.

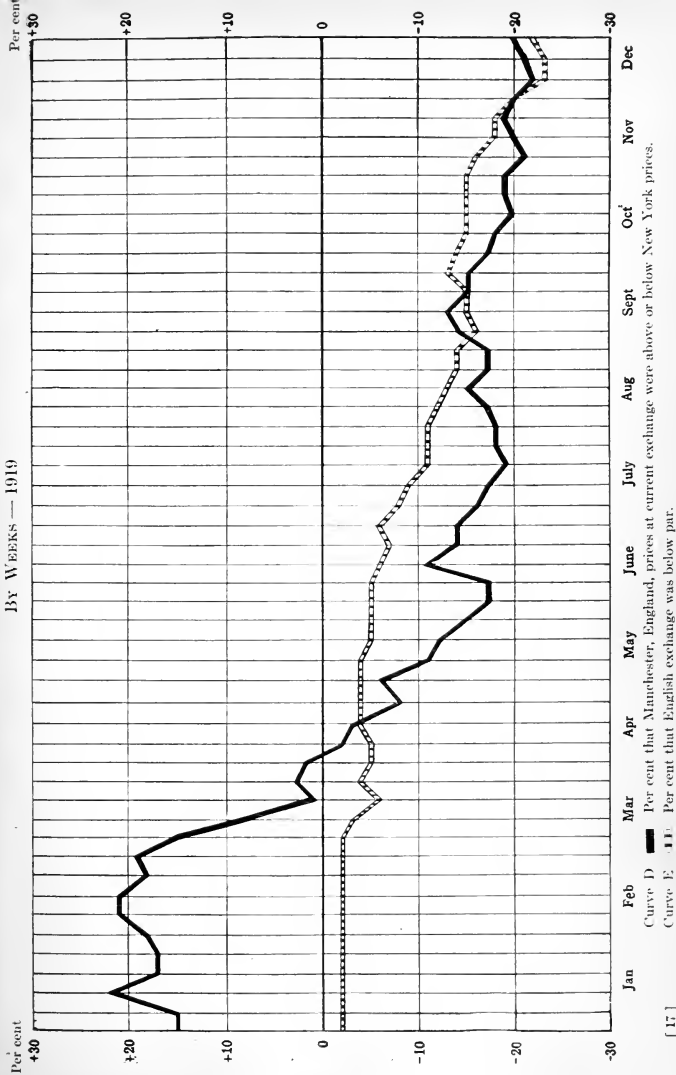
I. PRICES OF COTTON GREY CLOTH IN THE UNITED STATES AND ENGLAND

By WEEKS — 1919



11. FLUCTUATIONS IN ENGLISH EXCHANGE AND IN ENGLISH PRICES OF COTTON GREY CLOTH IN COMPARISON WITH UNITED STATES PRICES

By Weeks — 1919

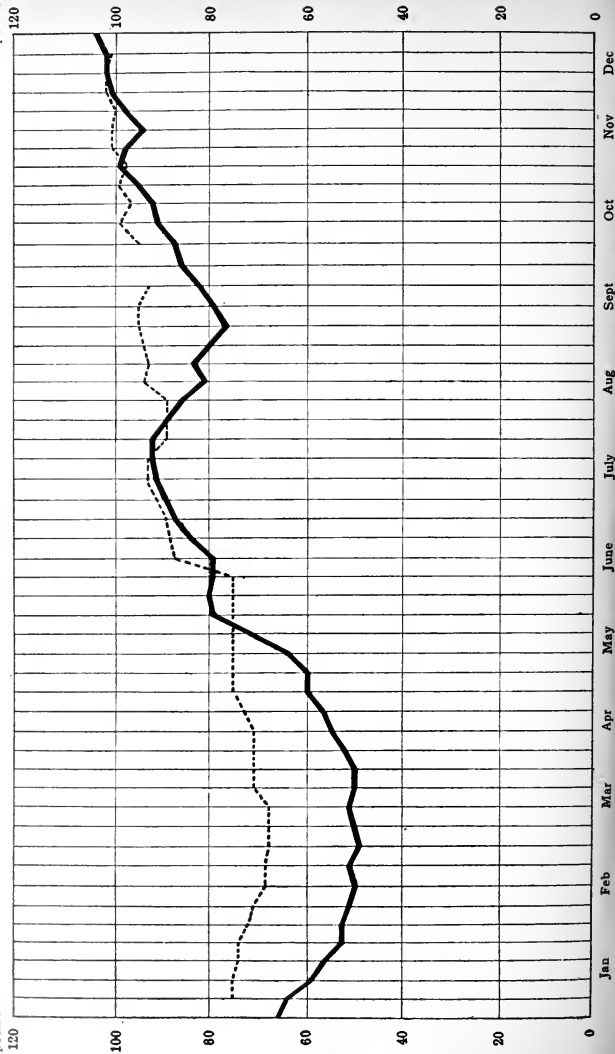


III. PRICES OF COTTON GREY CLOTH IN THE UNITED STATES AND INDIA

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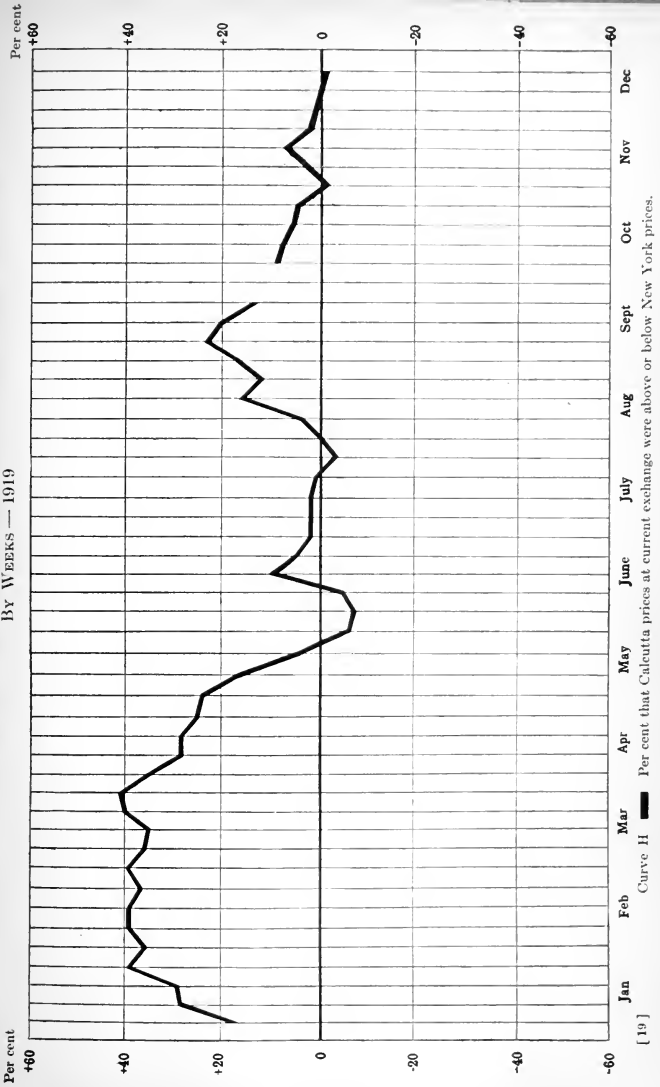
Cents per
pound

Cents per
pound



IV. FLUCTUATIONS IN INDIAN PRICES OF COTTON GREY CLOTH IN COMPARISON WITH UNITED STATES PRICES

By Weeks — 1919



METHODS OF COMPARISON

THE prices used in this bulletin were obtained from quotations published in the following sources: for the United States — the *Daily News Record* and the *New York Journal of Commerce*; for England—the *Manchester Guardian* and the *Cotton Factory Times*; for Calcutta — *Capital*; for Shanghai — *Report on the Shanghai Piece Goods Trade*, published by Noel Murray & Company, Ltd.

In order to make reliable comparisons, prices per yard have been converted into prices per pound of cloth. Furthermore, for each set of comparisons similar fabrics with practically the same average construction have been selected. In this way common units for comparison have been obtained.

By converting the prices per linear yard into prices per pound of cloth, all minor variations due to differences in the width of the fabrics and number of threads per square inch are overcome. The price per pound is used by many manufacturers in the United States in computing their costs, and, from a statistical standpoint, it is the simplest and most satisfactory method of comparing these international prices.

In the United States a typical cloth is quoted as follows: — “Print cloth 64×60 , 27 inch, 7.60, 10.5 cents.” This means that in this cloth there are 64 threads of warp yarn per inch of width, and 60 threads of weft (filling) yarn per inch of length; that the piece of cloth is 27 inches wide; that 7.6 linear yards of the cloth weigh one pound; and that the price per linear yard on the date of this quotation is 10.5 cents.

In England a typical cloth is quoted as follows: — “Shirting 35 inch, 38 yards, 16×14 , 8.25 pounds, $21/3$.” This means that a piece of cloth of this sort is 35 inches wide and 38 yards long; that there are 16 threads of warp yarn per quarter inch of width and 14 threads of weft (filling) yarn per quarter inch of length; that the piece of cloth weighs $8\frac{1}{4}$

pounds; and that the price is twenty-one shillings three pence per piece.

In India and China, cloths are quoted in the same way as in England.

All fabrics of foreign descriptions have been converted into American terms to show the number of threads per square inch and the number of yards per pound.

A further computation has been made to determine the average count of yarn in each fabric.¹ In some instances the size of the yarn of which the cloth is made is given in the quotations. When not given, it has been necessary to compute this from the number of threads, the width, and the weight of the fabric.

The fabrics that have been selected for each set of comparisons have practically the same average construction and the same average count of yarn. Inasmuch as from the standpoint of manufacturing cost the count of yarn is much more significant than the number of threads to the square inch, primary consideration has been given in the development of this plan to securing groups of fabrics with the same average size of yarn, even if the average number of threads in a square inch shows some variation.

¹ The count or size of yarn means the number of hanks per pound. A hank consists of 840 yards. No. 20 yarn means that 20 hanks of that size weigh one pound. No. 40 means that 40 hanks of that size weigh one pound. It is obvious, therefore, that the greater the number of hanks per pound the finer is the yarn and the greater the cost of spinning it.

The following fabrics are used in making the comparisons.

ENGLISH AND AMERICAN

New York

Width	Construction	Linear yards per pound	Number of yarn
36	56 × 60	4.0	22.3
36	48 × 48	5.5	24.7
40	44 × 40	4.25	18.6
39	80 × 80	4.0	33.7
39	72 × 76	4.25	33.1
39	68 × 72	4.75	34.6
28	64 × 64	7.0	33.4
27	56 × 52	9.0	35.0
—	—	—	—
Average	61 × 61	5.4	29.4

Manchester, England

38	72 × 64	3.75	25.8
35	64 × 56	4.6	25.7
38	60 × 56	4.54	26.7
38	64 × 56	4.93	30.0
38	52 × 44	5.55	26.3
38	48 × 48	6.33	30.0
36	76 × 88	4.25	33.9
32	68 × 68	6.1	36.0
—	—	—	—
Average	63 × 60	5.0	29.3

INDIAN AND AMERICAN

New York

Width	Construction	Linear yards per pound	Number of yarn
36	56 × 60	4.0	22.3
39	80 × 80	4.0	33.7
40	44 × 40	4.25	18.6
36	48 × 48	5.0	22.4
39	72 × 76	4.25	33.1
39	68 × 72	4.75	34.6
—	—	—	—
Average	61 × 62	4.4	27.5

Calcutta

34	64 × 52	5.35	28.1
38	64 × 64	4.66	30.2
37	64 × 64	4.47	28.2
39	72 × 64	3.7	26.1
37	76 × 76	3.7	28.1
38	78 × 64	3.6	26.0
—	—	—	—
Average	69 × 64	4.3	27.8

CHINESE AND AMERICAN

New York

Width	Construction	Linear yards per pound	Number of yarn
36	48 × 52	4.7	22.0
36	56 × 40	4.0	22.3
36	44 × 40	6.15	24.1
27	44 × 44	9.5	29.3
<hr/>			
Average	48 × 49	6.08	24.4

*Shanghai*¹

Sing Song Soldier			
Man	72 × 72	2.61	19.0
Loyal Son	60 × 60	4.4	26.0
Painted 8 Literatis	68 × 68	4.16	26.0
Blue 3 Students	56 × 52	5.5	28.0
<hr/>			
Average	64 × 63	4.16	24.8

¹ These fabrics are quoted as "chops" or brands and the construction is not given in the quotations. The standard construction of each "chop," however, is explained in the report by Ralph M. Odell, "*Cotton Goods in China*," *Special Agents Series — No. 107, U. S. Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce*, and these descriptions are used in this table.

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